ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Board of Education

OF THE

TOWN OF BLOOMFIELD

Esser County, A. J.

1902

BLOOMFIELD: S. MORRIS HULIN, PRINTER No. 29 BROAD St. ref 379,7493 B 1407

BOARD OF EDUCATION

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MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE:

JOSEPH F. VOGELIUS, SAMUEL ELLOR.

LIST OF TEACHERS, 1902-3.

William E. Chancellor, Superintendent of Schools
Principal of High School, and Principal of Evening School
Peter J. Smith, Supervisor of Music
Florence S. Davis, Supervisor of Drawing
Mabel Freeman, Supervisor of Physical Culture
Hurley A. Holaday Commercial Subjects
and Supervisor of Penmanship
School No. 1. High School,
Ella L. Draper, Vice-Principal, Mathematics Hasseltine R. Fletcher, Languages
Belle L, Merchant, Sciences, Etc.
Frederic N. Brown, Sciences, Etc.
Elizabeth H. Wyman, English, Etc.
Clarence Perkins, History, Etc.
Straig Contraction of the Contract Cont
School No. 2. Berkeley.
Minniette Martin, Principal
Harold H. Phillips, Grade V
Mary L. De Forest, Grade IV
Petronella B. Deyo, Grade III
Tressa Gallagher,
Mabel N. Betticher, Grade I
Mary A. Myrick, Grade I
Edith E. Walker, transferred, May, Kindergarten
Helen D. Bowns, successor,
Emma L. Dorr, Kindergarten
School No. 3. Brookside.
L. Arvilla Martin, Principal
James E. Watson, Grades VI-VII
Anna W. Cadmus,
Sara E. Montfort, Grade III
Lillian M. Galloway, Grade II
Estelle N. Crasto, Grade I
Elizabeth S. Dates, resigned, May, Kindergarten
Edith E. Walker, successor, Kindergarten
E. Horatia Teall, Kindergarten Assistant
SCHOOL No. 4. CENTER.
Mary M. Draper, Principal
Lizzie Otis, Grade VIII Mary J. Sloat Grade VII
Mary J. Sloat Grade VII

Grace E. Jones,	Grade VII
L. Pearl Hewes	Grade VI
Anna S. Agnew,	Grade VI
	Grade VI
M. Etta Tyler, resigned, March,	Grade V
Jessie B. Peirson,	Grade IV
Nellie D. Maxfield,	Grade III
Ida K. Brook	Grade II
Anna G. Burnet, resigned, May,	Grade I
Anna G. Lowe, successor.	
Florence Ackley Kir	ndergarten
M. Estelle Dodd, Kindergarter	Assistant
School No. 5. Brookdale.	
	137 3771
Mary L. Ellinwood, Principal,	les IV-VII
Mary L. Ellinwood, Principal,	ades 1-111
School No. 7. Fairfiew.	
	Principal
Ida E. Robinson,	Grade V
TT 1. T TO	Grade IV
Tilly J. Deike,	Grade III
	Grade II
Louise Burnet, resigned, May,	Grade I
Emma J. Chase, successor.	Grade 1
	dergarten
Dorothy M. Horrax, Kil	idei gai teli
School No. 9. Watsessing.	
	Principal
Elizabeth J. Best, Grad	es VI-VII
	ades IV-V
Bertha Staples,	Grade III
Hattie L. Ferguson,	Grade II Grade I
A. Gertrude Defendorf,	Grade I
Sara Boice, Kin	dergarten
EVENING SCHOOL.	
Two Terms. One Term. Less than	
Frederic N. Brown, C. A. Boyd, Minniette M.	
James E. Watson, Harold H. Phillips, Stella Schoo	
Hurley A. Holaday, Howard Biddulph, Clarence Per	
Edgar S. Pitkin. Thomas Agr	new, Jr.

ANNUAL REPORT.

To the Inhabitants of The Town of Bloomfield:

The Board of Education presents the following report for the year ending June 30, 1902:

INSTRUCTION.

For the first time since 1898 all the school buildings have been in use the entire year.

The larger accomodations afforded have caused an increase in numbers as well as an improvement in discipline and scholarship. There is also a greater disposition upon the part of pupils to complete the entire School course. During the past five years the number of scholars in the Grammar department has about doubled.

The whole number of day scholars has increased from 1774 in 1901 to 1972 in 1902. There has also been an increase in the number of teachers from 54 to 58, all in the primary and kindergarten classes.

Of the nine class-rooms reported last year as unoccupied, only five remain. Two of these are half rooms in the kindergartens.

The rapid filling up of the new school-houses is accounted for by the growth of the town, which requires at least two new rooms each year; also, by the fact that the accommodations five years ago were far behind the needs of the place. At that time, there were half day classes in some schools; scholars were kept in basement rooms unfit for such use, and it was also necessary to provide for them in a rented building.

EVENING SCHOOL.

Two terms of sixteen weeks each of the Evening School have been held. The second term was added because of the earnest desire of the pupils to continue their studies. Although fewer in numbers than last year, the scholars have shown a greater determination to improve the opportunities offered them.

Mothers' meetings have been held in all the schools, also a number of entertainments designed to increase the interest of the parents in the schools.

Exhibitions of school work have been held during the last term, which have been very creditable to both teachers and scholars.

CONTAGIOUS DISEASES.

Contagious diseases have interfered somewhat with the attendance of pupils. Because of the prevalence of small-pox, the Board of Education at the April vacation exercised the power given them by the School Law, to exclude all children, who should not procure certificates from physicians or the Board of Health, of successful vaccination within the past five years. This order has been strictly enforced, and all the school children have now been vaccinated. As the State appropriation is based partly upon the school attendance, allowance has been secured from the State Board or Education for the scholars who have been quarantined.

BUILDINGS.

Besides attending to the ordinary repairs, the Building Committee have made permanent additions to the school plant.

A stone sidewalk has been built on Essex Avenue in front of the Brookside Schoolhouse.

The lot on Liberty Street has been graded, and sidewalks laid. The Brookdale Schoolhouse has been painted.

A telephone system has been installed in all the school buildings, the New York and New Jersey Telephone Company furnishing the service at one-half the charge made to private consumers. This has been found to be a great convenience to the teachers.

MAINTENANCE.

Quite a number of new desks were supplied as needed at the Brookdale, Center, Fairview and High School buildings. Some of these were required for new classes which it was found necessary to form, and others to replace old desks which were ill-suited to the size and grade of the pupils using them.

Gravel has been placed upon the playgrounds of a number of the school-buildings.

The evil of truancy has been remedied by calling upon the police to do the work of a truant officer. This method has proved successful and will be continued.

The library fund has been used for the purchase of a set of Appleton's Universal Cyclopedias for each of the seven schools in the Town. Each set contains twelve volumes, handsomely illustrated, and filled with information always at the command of the scholars.

SUPPLIES.

The money voted for supplies has been barely sufficient to provide those which were absolutely required. Some of the books and apparatus asked for by the teachers have been refused because of a lack of funds.

FINANCES.

At the Spring election a vote was taken under the new School Law, by which the method of appropriating school money by a Board of Estimate is retained.

For the coming year this Board has, at the request of the Board of Education, granted the amount of \$33,500 for current expenses. Though this is \$8,000 less than was appropriated last year, it is hoped that by strict economy it can be made to cover the needs of the schools. It is true, however, that an increased expenditure in some directions, especially in larger salaries paid to experienced teachers,

would be very desirable, if the town were in a position to make it.

Many losses of valuable teachers have occurred because of the relatively smaller salaries paid here than in adjacent towns and cities.

The Board of Education have been enabled to reduce the appropriation asked for from the Town, partly because of the increase by about \$4,000 of the State appropriation for the year ending June 30, 1903.

Inasmuch as there is a further increase this year in scholars, and will be next year in teachers, upon whose numbers the State appropriation is based, it seems certain that the amount received from the State for the year ending June 30, 1904, will be still larger. To the extent in which the receipts from the State are secured the demands upon the Town for money for school purposes will be lessened. Thus the argument of the advocates of the annexation of Bloomfield to the city of Newark because of the low tax-rate in that city will gradually lose its force. With the growth of the taxable property and the increase of scholars up to the limit of the present buildings, the tax-rate of Bloomfield, as far as it is affected by the needs of the schools, will surely decline.

The Board of Education unanimously oppose annexation as likely to prove disastrous to the school interests of the Town.

While the-tax rate here is at the present time somewhat higher than in the city of Newark, there is also here more adequate provision for the schools than is given in that place. The High and Grammar departments would suffer greatly, were it decided to remove the scholars to the city, in order to lower the expense of teaching the pupils. In case of annexation the control of the schools would be taken out of the hands of a local Board of Education and placed in those of men having no interest in our community.

RECEIPTS.

Balance in hands of Treasu	rer T	une	30, 10	100	\$293	30	
Town Appropriation .					2000	150	
State Appropriation .					19 127		
Tuition from Glen Ridge				240	40	200	
Tuition from Franklin .	. ,				5	00	
Library from State .			-		70	00	
Dog Tax			7.60	* *	372		
							\$61,408 06
	Disbu	JRSE	MENT	S.			
Teachers' Salaries		1	1		\$37,640	61	
Janitors' Wages				50	3,650		
Furniture				4.	901		
Gravel					27	-0.00	
Library					325	5	
Transportation of Brookda	le Pu	pils			250		
Trees			-		24		
Repairs					2,478		m
Fan, Center School .		1.1		B. T	750		
Supplies					6,274		
Insurance					17		
Printing			*		295		
Fuel, Light and Power .					3,414		
Pianos					780		
Clerk's Salary					600		
Balance in hands of Treasur		-			3,980	21	
							\$61,408 06

A payment of \$3,000 has been made on the bonded indebtness, leaving the amount still unpaid \$149,000, as follows: bonds \$147,000, mortgage on Center School-house \$2,000. The estimated value of the school property is \$250,000.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WILLIAM A. BALDWIN,

Clerk.

HIGH SCHOOL COMMENCEMENT, JUNE 25, 1902.

PROGRAM.

Organ Prelude Overture to "William Tell" Rossini
Chorus* Was ist des Deutschen Vaterland Reichardt
Scripture Reading; Prayer Rev. P. G. Blight
Pastor, Watsessing M. E. Church
Part-Song Onward, Bonny Boat, be Flying Kucken
Essay The Capture of Stony Point Zoe Natalie Corraz
Essay Ballads of the Scottish Border Helen Bartholomew
Oration The Trans-Siberian Railroad Raymond Foster Davis
'Cello Solo Largo Handel
Essay Athletics for Girls Lucy Grace Butterfield
Essay Abbey's Conception of Sir Galahad Mae Snedeker
Part Sanga (a Good Night, 1st and 2d Soprano, Alto Leslie
(b Down in the Dewy Dell. Smart
Essay Mark Antony Mabel Gertrude Potter
Oration True Herolsm Richard Ludwig Lee
Essay Some Traits of American Women Gertrude Seibert
Violin Solo Polonaise Mlynarski
Chorus The Lost Chord Sullivan
Essay (German) Ekkehard Rubena Jean Gault
Oration Good Roads Joseph Edwin Garabrant
Essay (French) Le Viellard Florence Baldwin
College Songs a. Old Nassau b. Fair Harvard c. Eli Yale
Essay Achieving Greatness Ethel Gwenyth Morgan
Oration Science as a Mental Training William Ashton Bender
Chorus "All Through the Night" (Old Welsh) Owen
Address to the Graduates Rev. C. S. Woodruff, D. D.
Pastor, Park M. E. Church
Presentation of Diplomas Mr. Frank B. Stone
Member Board of Education

Benediction

Postlude Coronation March (Le Prophete)

Meyerbeer

Violin Miss Ruby Gerard-Braun
Violoncello Mr. Morris E. Smith
At the Organ Mr. J. Louis Menier
At the Piano Miss Florence Grundy.
Musical Director Mr. P. J. Smith

^{*} From the High School

GRADUATES CLASS OF 1902

TWENTY-SECOND CLASS OF HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

Florence Baldwin
Helen Bartholomew
William Ashton Bender
Lucy Grace Butterfield
Zoe Natalie Corraz
Raymond Foster Davis
Joseph Edwin Garabrant

Rubena Jean Gault Richard Ludwig Lee Ethel Gwenyth Morgan Mabel Gertrude Potter Gertrude Seibert Mae Snedeker

GRADUATES BY YEARS

YEAR	DIPLOMAS	YEAR	DIPLOMAS
1876	11	1890	6
1877	5	1891	15
1878	2	1892	12
1879	No record	1893	18
1880	No record	‡ 1894	10
1881	No record	§1895	15
1882	No record	1896	12
*1883	6	1897	8
†1884	12	‡ 1898	8
1885	8	§1899	12
1886	4	*1900	9
1887	13	*1901	18
1888	9	*1902	13
1889	10		

* 4 Year course. † 2 in 4 year course. ‡ 3½ year course. \$ Not including 4th year course of post graduates

SCHOOL ENROLLMENTS

Net enrollment by School	s, 1901-2	1890	1008
No. 1 High School	137	1893	1161
No. 2 Berkeley	336	1896	1382
No. 3 Brookside	310	1897	1477
No. 4 Center	591	1898	1643
No. 5 Brookdale	67	1899	1678
No. 7 Fairview	236	1900	1760
No. 8 Watsessing	265	1901	1774
No. 1 Evening School	258	Evening School	365
Total	2230	Evening School	1972

Days' Attendance 1900-1901 244,000 1901-1902 270,000

PROMOTION TO HIGH SCHOOL EXERCISES, JUNE 25. 1902

Grammar School No. 4.

PROGRAM—From	AMES RUSSELL LOWELL
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TROOKAM—I ROM JAMES RUSSELL LOWELL
Chorus "March of the Men of Columbia" Welsh Air Essay "Elmwood" Cecil A. Cook
Recitation "To Charles Eliot Norton" Harvey E. Harris
Recitation "To the Dandelion" Helen E. Clark
Recitation "With a Pressed Flower" May R. Kastenhuber
Old Ballad "The Lass of Richmond Hill" James Hook
Essay "Side Lights" Natalie A. Bourne
Recitation "The Changeling" Beatrice A. Teall
Recitation "The First Snow-Fall" Jennie Harris
Recitation "Selection from Commemoration Ode" William D. Kelly
Recitation "A Tribute to Lincoln" A. Frederick Tydeman
Piano Solo "Silver Stars,'—(C. Bohm) Ella M. Bennett
THE VISION OF SIR LAUNFAL
Prelude to Part First Charles H. Clubb Harold A O'Connell
Mabel L. Conlan Harry M. Storm
Dorothy E. Kidder
Two-Part Song "The Maybells and the Flowers" Mendelssohn
Part First Clare Glander Luetta Cook
G. Nelson Hogan Ethel R. Clark
Song "Killarney" Balfe
Prelude to Part Second Florence E. Kruysman
Kathrine M. Bingham
Adelia F. Corraz
Two-Part Song "The Angel" Rubinstein
Part Second James B. Adams
Gladys E. Bardner
Grace E. Dannbacher
Emily I. Dossenbach
Two-Part Song "The Morning Invitation" Eighth Grade
Presentation of County Certificates Elmer C. Sherman
County Superintendent, Essex County
Presentation of Bloomfield Certificates Mary M. Draper
Principal, No. 4
William E. Chancellor
Principal, No. 1, and Superintendent of Schools Chorus. "America."
Chorus. America.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

Office of Superintendent of Schools Principal of High School and Principal of Evening School, Bloomfield, N. J., July 5, 1902.

The Board of Education, Town of Bloomfield-Gentlemen;

I beg leave to submit this, my fifth, annual report to your honorable body.

No great event has taken place in our school history during the past year; and yet several important features of much value have been added to our educational life. A teacher of physical culture has been employed who has given her entire time with marked success to supervision of daily physical exercises in all the classes and to systematic instruction of the High School girls in the gymnasium. A number of school children able to do the work in the highest Grammar grade and in the High School have been transported from Brookdale to the Center and High Schools, and thus enabled to take advantage of the Town's best educational facilities. Seventh grade instruction has been afforded in both Brookdale and Watsessing Schools, thus extending the higher Grammar work more broadly in the community. A second term has been added to the Evening School course, greatly to the profit of those who have been most earnest in their efforts for self-improvement. The work of the Principals, Supervisors and Superintendent has been greatly facilitated by the new telephone system. The standard of our requirements for teachers has been considerably improved with proportionate effect in the quality and efficiency of the instruction given. Finally for the first time in five years every class throughout the year has had a full day's session. The school-year, 1901-2, has seen by far the largest enrollment in the history of the Town, even including the years before Glen Ridge withdrew, by

far the most regular daily attendance in school on the part of those enrolled, and in my judgment by far the best educational work that I have seen in five years. In short, teachers and pupils have responded most satisfactorily to the efforts made by the Town to provide them with excellent school buildings, sufficient in number, conveniently located and well equipped.

Considering that at least once in five years it is well to take an inventory of the educational condition of any school system, I prepared in May a set of uniform questions for all classes in Grades III to VII inclusive. To secure as impartial results as possible, before being given out the questions themselves were submitted to teachers of grades other than those for which they were prepared. From those questions which were approved as standard for the various grades I selected a reasonable number for the purposes of the tests. Each child's answers were examined by teachers in schools other than the child attended, each examiner marking only one set of the child's papers. The reading in each school was examined in every case by a Principal from a different school.

The tests were in Reading, Writing, Spelling, Geography, Arithmetic, Composition, and in the higher grades History. The results were sufficiently important to deserve recording. Reading seemed to show considerably the best results, largely due to the fact that young teachers are often quite as successful in its teaching as older teachers.

The best work by classes was done by teachers who are most familiar with the grade. Every class in the higher half of the twenty-one classes Grade III-VII examined was taught by a teacher of at least two years' experience in Bloomfield and four years in all. These eleven relatively successful teachers included two men employed in the grade classrooms and in the work of five teachers of his grade the third man, though without any previous experience, secured for his class the highest grade. Those children appear to be

most fortunate who secure as their teachers persons of experience, especially when these are men. Even if it were not necessary to employ at least one man in each building for reasons of management, it would be desirable for reasons of instruction.

A result quite unexpected was the showing made by the mixed or two-grade classes. These are much harder for the teachers, but the exhibit made by the pupils in them was rather better than in single grade classes, a result due to the presence of older pupils inspiring the younger and of younger pupils before whom the older must set good examples.

A careful study of papers submitted by School No. 4 with its departmental organization showed that such an organization tends to evenness of proficiency in all subjects. The mediocre pupils seemed also to show better results than elsewhere. The reasons are in each case obvious. Where each teacher is responsible for one or two subjects in various classes, no subject is neglected. And where each set of pupils meets several different teachers the child of only fair ability is almost certain to find inspiration and help from at least one teacher, which promotes his success in every line of work.

I found that in all subjects averaged together the result at No. 3, Brookside, was somewhat better than that at any other elementary school, and that the average mark of all the pupils examined in all subjects together at No. 3 was 7 per cent higher than in any other school but the difference between the second highest and lowest of all was only 5 per cent. As Brookside has been seriously handicapped by mixed, or two-grade classes per room, it is important to inquire what factor is present at Brookside and absent from the other schools which enabled it to produce this result. Also, in a series of exhibits, good as each was, and not one less than good, Brookside again clearly surpassed the other schools. There is at Brookside one factor in the school-life, not pres-

ent elsewhere to an equal degree, and which in all my own educational experience, and in that of all other school superintendents, who have had the same opportunities of observation has invariably been found to produce enthusiasm in school-going and quick, continuous and vigorous self-activity. At that school, the Principal and one of the teachers, at their own expense and of their own initiative, have organized and carried on regularly elementary classes in manual training for all the boys and girls in these grades. As this Principal has succeeded in placing her school clearly in the lead of all other schools when examined in the regular studies and as this particular teacher secured for her class much the highest rank of all the primary classes in town in regular subjects, and as in my judgment all the other Principals and nearly all the other teachers in our Town are equally earnest and competent in their work, I am compelled unexpectedly to re-affirm, because of my experience in Bloomfield, the opinions I have expressed in preceding annual reports that manual training so quickens the mind and so reaches the heart of boys and girls as to increase their success in all other studies. These manual-mental exercises, like calisthenics and gymnastics, promote the efficiency of the mind in what seem like purely intellectual activities.

That the educational world should have come with practical unanimity to an appreciation of manual exercises for mental and moral development is no matter for surprise. Boys who have had work to do at home have always become the foremost men in business and government: and now when town and city have taken from boys the necessity and opportunity to learn at home the use of tools and the nature of materials, it has become not only appropriate but necessary that teachers should undertake what parents can no longer do. But as in nearly all other details of advanced civilization it is certain that the school can train boys more effectively and completely in manual art and skill than the home ever did or could.

In conclusion, these uniform tests have confirmed my belief in the value of teachers of training and experience; in the special efficiency of male teachers in imparting the essentials of Grammar school subjects; in the complete fairness and thorough-going educational discipline resulting from departmental school organization; and in the power of manual training to arouse the energy of students in all subjects.

The uniform experience that manual training increases school attendance in the Grammar grades means that the children enjoy schools with those great features and that their parents so appreciate the children's improvement because of this training as to be willing to keep them in school longer. Large as has been the increased attendance in Grammar grades in the past few years, an increase due chiefly to the various new features of school work, manual training would prolong the school education of boys and girls here still further.

It seems to be generally agreed, that all boys and girls for their own sakes belong in school until fifteen or sixteen years of age. If manual training exercises will keep them there, their extension in our schools must be highly desirable. Such a department can be developed in each school out of the present materials, by reason of the liberal grants of aid from the State, payable as the expenses are incurred, as in the case of library purchases, at very small cost to the Town.

The improvement of most of the classes at Center Grammar School which had so greatly suffered in recent years from half-day sessions has been very gratifying. As many of the teachers have been young and inexperienced the credit must be attributed largely to the efficiency and helpfulness of the Principal in her relations with teachers and pupils. The improvement of Brookdale has been equally gratifying. It is interesting to note that in Arithmetic the pupils of No. 5, so far as examinations show, are distinctly

superior to any other school. Berkeley School has seen the organization of a Neighborhood club, which has held monthly meetings with from one hundred to four hundred people in attendance, and a Wednesday evening Gymnasium club, open to all boys, with an average attendance of forty. The school shows in its social spirit the evidences of the deep interest the parents of the locality take in its welfare. While all the work has been good, that in Music has been so good as to attract attention even outside the community. Here again the school reflects the enthusiastic activity of the Principal. At Watsessing a new Principal with six young teachers, no one of whom had been in the school before, and only one even in the town, undertook to create good school conditions. He has succeeded to the entire satisfaction of the neighborhood. At Fairview the work has been very good. No school has a more attractive atmosphere. Here as elsewhere it is essential that, as long as it continues necessary to lose a third or more of our teachers yearly through the attraction of higher salaries elsewhere, the importance of the work of the Principal as the organizing and moving spirit of the school be recognized at its true worth.

All the work in the past year in the High School has been very satisfactory. Perhaps the most notable feature of the record has been the very small number of pupils who have left during the year. There has been very little ill-health; in this respect I note a marked improvement among girls. The physical training exercises have been unquestionably beneficial. The testimony of the parents of our High School has been emphatic upon this point. A singular feature has been that in one class, Grade IX, half of the pupils are boys, an unusally large proportion. This was partly, not wholly, due to the now well established Commercial course. The system of promotion and graduation by counts and credits for each study successfully pursued, has permitted several pupils to lengthen their course beyond

four years and one or two to reduce it to three years. The Senior class, though graduating only thirteen pupils, had twenty members, of whom two were post graduates pursuing elective studies not taken while they were in the High School, three were not able to take quite the number of studies required for graduation, and two have always been special students. The High School is very serviceable to the community by reason of this flexible organization, while at the same time its diploma has continued to maintain its high standing. Of the last two classes of graduates, numbering in all thirty-one, seventeen next Fall will be pursuing courses in higher institutions of learning with the intention of graduating. This speaks well for the influence of our High School upon its students and promises well for the future of the community. In each department, Mathematics, English, the Languages, the Sciences, History, and Commercial work, the instruction during the past year has been uniformly competent.

It is profitable to note that the growth of enrollment in the High School, making due allowance for the loss of Glen Ridge pupils previously enrolled, has been about fifteen annually, but that beginning with 1902 the number of pupils who will leave our eighth grades to enter the High School is likely to double. Our Senior classes of the past two years have numbered over twenty pupils each and the Freshman classes about forty-five each. Next Fall nearly 100 pupils will enter Grade VIII and 140 Grade VII. Added to the growth that is due to increased interest in school-going is the growth that is due to increased population in the Town. In the past year three new pupils joined the Junior class alone, and in all some ten pupils were added by new families coming to live here, a gain offset by only two pupils whose families moved away. The excellence of the High School has contributed to its increase in numbers.

The last of the schools to be established here has been the Evening School. The quality of the work was much im-

proved over last year, and the enrollment, 258, was sufficiently large to warrant the continuance of the school and further improvement in the instruction offered.

It would be impossible to present an annual report this year without referring to the very serious difficulty which the constant changes of teachers have caused the supervisors, the principals and myself. In June, 1902, there were teaching in the forty classrooms of our elementary schools, Nos. 2, 3, 4, 7 and 8, twenty teachers who had been here not over one year. This means one change in every two class positions within one year. Next Fall, even if there are no further changes than those already known, there will come to Bloomfield over twenty new teachers to fill vacancies. One classroom at Fairview has had five teachers in two years, another at Brookside seven in five years, another at Center three within one year. One set of pupils at Berkeley has had eight different teachers within four years. an average of two a year. This frequency of change is not always a serious disadvantage; but where nearly every teacher has been new to the school and to the grade progress becomes very difficult for the pupils. The average experience of teachers who came to Berkelev and Watsessing schools last year was only one year, and one-half of the fourteen teachers had had no other experience than that of the training department or model practice department of the Normal Schools.

Many parents have called upon me to protest against these changes, which have usually seemed inexplicable to them. It is important to state that thirty of the thirty-seven teachers who have left us within the past two years, have left solely to get higher salaries; and that both the Board and I myself have been very reluctant to see them go. To have kept all of these desirable teachers in the past two years would have meant a total increase of at least three or four thousand dollars in the annual payroll, an amount which has never been available.

Without going into remote history I note that the staffs of teachers for next year in our schools include the names of only thirteen persons who were here five years ago, one High School teacher who is vice-principal, four principals, one supervisor, one principal teacher, and but seven class teachers. The quality of the instruction offered and the opinion ontside of Bloomfield regarding it seem to differ from the Town's ability to meet the market value of the teaching. Otherwise there is to-day not one discouraging feature in the entire educational condition here, as far as I am able to see.

With this record of progress, which is itself a prophecy of yet further progress, in keeping with these, the most prosperous and progressive times this Town, this State, and the nation have ever known, I look forward to the year to come with the hope that by its efforts and its results the education of our students in day and evening schools will be generally satisfactory to the community.

I desire to acknowledge the continued and helpful support of the Board, in ways both direct and indirect and in forms both active and sympathetic, and the constant, loyal, earnest and intelligent service of principals, supervisors and teachers.

Very respectfully submitted:

W. E. CHANCELLOR.

AUTHORIZED TEXT BOOK LIST.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

	Writing Books	
	Smith's Intermediate Penmanship	Richardson, Smith & Co.
	Spelling Blank Books	
	Smith's	Richardson Smith & Co
	Readers	. reconstruction, content & Co.
	Series: The Children's. Cyr	Ginn & Co.
	"The Baldwin Readers	American Book Co.
	Stepping Stones to Literature. Gilbert	Silver Bundatt & Co
	& ArnoldGraded Literature. Judson & Bender	Mayneyd Marrill & Co.
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